Siphoning of fuel

1322. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the fuel supplies meant for army units in Leh are being siphoned off on the way to the destination;

(b) whether it is a fact that Bulk Petroleum Lorries (BPL) carrying fuel from the Indian Oil Corporation's (IOC) main depot in Ambala have been found pilfered by the time they reach the army's depot in Leh; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No case of siphoning off of fuel supplies meant for Army units in Leh have been reported.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Troops pull out from J&K

1323. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more troops are pulling out of Jammu and Kashmir in keeping with the Prime Minister's statement; and

(b) whether Government are confident that Pakistan aided and trained terrorist will not escalate cross border terrorism?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The security situation is dynamic and is reviewed periodically. No compromise will be made on security related matters and plans are in place to cater for all possible operational contingencies.

Shortage of officers in Indian Army

1324. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in 1992 there was shortage of 8,000 officers in Indian Army and presently the shortage has gone up to 13,000 although